

The Good Girls Revolt

How the Women of *Newsweek* Sued Their Bosses and Changed the Workplace

By Lynn Povich

On March 16, 1970, *Newsweek* magazine hit newsstands with a cover story on the fledgling feminist movement entitled “Women in Revolt.” That same day, forty-six *Newsweek* women, Lynn Povich among them, announced they’d filed an EEOC complaint charging their employer with “systematic discrimination” against them in hiring and promotion.

In *The Good Girls Revolt*, Povich evocatively tells the story of this dramatic turning point. Through the lives of several participants, she shows how personal experiences and cultural shifts led a group of well-mannered, largely apolitical women, raised in the 1940s and 1950s, to stand up for their rights—and what happened after they did. For many, filing the suit was a radicalizing act that empowered them to “find themselves” and stake a claim. Others lost their way in a landscape of opportunities, pressures, discouragements, and hostilities they weren’t prepared to navigate. With warmth, humor, and perspective, the book also explores why changes in the law did not change everything for today’s young women.

LYNN POVICH

Lynn Povich is an award-winning journalist who has spent more than 40 years in the news business. She began her career at *Newsweek* as a secretary and 10 years later was appointed the first female senior editor in the history of the magazine. In 1970, Povich was one of 46 women who sued *Newsweek* for sex discrimination, the first women in the media to sue. Her book on that landmark lawsuit, *The Good Girls Revolt*, was published by PublicAffairs in September 2012 and issued in paperback September 2013.

In 1991, Povich became Editor-in-Chief of *Working Woman* magazine, the only national business magazine for women. She joined MSNBC.Com in 1996 as Managing Editor/East Coast to help launch the 24-hour news and information cable/internet venture, overseeing the web content of NBC News as well as MSNBC Cable.

Povich has received numerous honors, including a 1976 Matrix Award from Women in Communications for Exceptional Achievement in Magazines and the 2006 Exceptional Woman in Publishing Award from Women in Periodical Publishing. In 2005, she edited a book on her father, famed *Washington Post* sports columnist Shirley Povich, called *All Those Mornings...At the Post*.

A native of Washington, D.C., Povich graduated from Vassar College, where she served as Executive-in-Residence in 1996. She is married to Stephen B. Shepard, former Editor-in-Chief of *Business Week* and Founding Dean of the Graduate School of Journalism of the City University of New York. They have two children.